

THE

# PICTURE

OF A

Female Favourite.

OF A



Printed in the Y E A R, 1708.

THE  
P I C T U R E  
O F A

Female Favourite.

**I**N that most Pious and as happy Time,  
When all was *Peace*, and *Virtue* was no Crime;  
When *Rage* and *Faction* did not us divide,  
More than the Seas from all the World beside;  
When *Aaron's* Sons knew, that they were to keep  
For God, and not for Sacrifice, their Sheep,  
When pure *Religion*, who looks gently Sage,  
Aged, but much more comely for her Age,  
*Allegiance* with true *Loyalty* display'd,  
And for her *Sovereign* most devoutly pray'd;  
When *Truth*, the *Sword of Justice* too did bless,  
Clad with those Arms of Proof, her Nakedness;  
When *Perjuries*, like Guns, roar'd not aloud;  
Nor *Lies* flew, thick, like Cannons' smoaky Cloud;  
Then was the *Reign*, the very *Reign* that show'd  
What by a Queen was to a Minion ow'd;

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I mean not D——e whose never-dying Name  
 Eternally recorded is by Fame,  
 For his Heroick Act of humbling *Spain*,  
 In scattering their *Armada* on the Main.  
 Nor on the famous R——hdo I hint,  
 Whose Warlike Glory prov'd his Punishment,  
 For as King *James* his Actions did despise  
 He's made to *Goudamer* a Sacrifice.  
 L——r I think not on, whose soaring Pride  
 To get a Virgin Queen and Kingdom try'd.  
 Nor do I C——l mean ; but N——m,  
 A Female Favourite endu'd with Shame,  
 Perfidiousness and Hatred to a Peer,  
 Esteemed by *Elizabeth* most dear ;  
 A Passion N——m for E——x had,  
 So much that for his Person almost mad ;  
 She used all the Arts of Woman's Charms  
 To bring that valiant Hero to her Arms.  
 But Love not prompting E——x to admire  
 This Countess, who his Passion did desire,  
 His slighting her she highly did resent,  
 And vow'd her Hate shou'd be his Punishment.

Thus bent upon the Ruine of her Love,  
 C——l a Captive to her Charms did prove ;  
 For tho' a Statesman, yet his Gravity  
 Her Beauty, Wit, and Spirit cou'd espie,  
 Which him to be her Gallant did incite,  
 Then being linkt by Love they did unite

Their Hatred to that high and great Degree,  
 Which daily did increase their Enmity.  
 Next *E——x* being to the *Tower* sent,  
 They both rejoyc'd at his Imprisonment,  
 And whilst the Countess did exasperate  
 The Queen, to ease her self, by *E——x* Fate;  
*C——l* as earnest for his Destiny,  
 Did press his Sovereign that he soon might be  
 To Tryal brought, and did as quickly spread  
 The News o'er *England* that his Rival's dead.  
 However, Conflicts jostling in between  
 The Justice and the Mercy of the Queen,  
 For *N——m* and *C——l* too she sent,  
 And plainly told them what was her Intent,  
 In setting *E——x* from the *Tower* free,  
 And strait restore him to his Dignity.  
 To *N——m* this was a Mortal Blow,  
 And *C——l*'s Pride with meer Revenge did glow;  
 But whilst his Enemies his Fortune thought  
 Had Reconciliation to him brought,  
 Chance labour'd for 'em with unthought Success;  
 To bring about their spiteful Wickedness.  
 For as the Queen to Council went in State,  
*R——d* a Countess did upon her wait,  
 Her Eyes were languishing, her Looks as sad,  
 Her Gate most moving, and in Mourning clad,  
 But yet her Beauty lookt most charming bright,  
 And seemed to eclipse the very Light,  
 Thus at her Sovereigns Feet her self she threw,  
 And told the Queen for Mercy she did sue,

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In the behalf of *E——x*, whom the Tye  
Of Wedlock begs his Honour may not die;  
For as he's joyned to a Virtuſous Wife,  
It was her Duty to implore his Life.

The Queen was ſo aſtoniſht at the News,  
That ſhe the Boon of *Richmond* did reſuſe;  
No Comfort had the Counteſs but her Tears,  
Nor Company to cheriſh her but Fears;  
Then *N——m* and *C——l* too did take  
This Opportunity, and ſoon did make  
Th' Advantage of it, for the Earl is Try'd,  
Condemn'd, and Mercy to him is deny'd:  
So far was *N——m*'s fell Nature to procure  
His Pardon, that ſhe cou'd not him endure;  
To irritate the Queen was all her Care,  
Which fill'd his loving Lady with Deſpair.  
Tho' to her *N——m* did Viſits make,  
It was not out of Love, but for the ſake  
Of adding more Afflictions to her Grief,  
Under the Guiſe of giving her Relief.

But as his Execution is delay'd,  
*N——m* ſtill of Mercy was afraid,  
And ſo was *C——l*, then his Paramour  
Declar'd that *E——x* was from Dying ſav'd,  
If he Petition'd for his Life; beſide,  
He had a Pledge by which his Fate's deſy'd,  
But Thanks to his Ambition, for his Heart  
Will not with any ſmall Submiſſion part.

More-

Moreover, whom can he in this Affair  
 Employ, but we may both corrupt his Care?  
 I will not leave the Queen, my Life I'll Pawn  
 On that he dies before a Sennight gone.  
 C——l then parted better satisfy'd,  
 Since N——m was wholly on his Side;  
 And E——x knowing her a Favourite,  
 Who could the Queen to Mercy soon incite,  
 To have a Visit from her did he fend,  
 And hoping in Distress she'd prove his Friend,  
 Quoth E——x to her, To the Queen this Ring  
 Restore, on Sight of which I'm sure she'll bring  
 My Person out of Trouble; for when she  
 'T his Royal Pledge deliver'd unto me,  
 She said, with many solemn Oaths and Vows,  
 I ne'er should be disgraced by my Foes.

Then N——m transported was to see  
 The Earl had in her such Fidelity, [ might  
 Who trusted her with that same Ring which  
 Have sav'd him from their Malice and their Spite.  
 She frankly promis'd what she had not  
 The least Intent to do, and soon forgot  
 Her Promises; instead of visiting  
 The Queen, to C——l the Ring did bring,  
 Who waited for her, prais'd her Cruelty,  
 And said he'd Hopes that E——x now wou'd Die:  
 Then going both together to the Queen,  
 Who enquiring of his Carriage and his Mien,

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Since her last Orders by him were receiv'd;  
 Madam, quoth N——m, if I'm believ'd;  
 E——x was ne'er so haughty as he's now,  
 He scorns Repentance, seems to knit his Brow,  
 And so much under-values he his Life,  
 That nought he thinks on but his handsome  
 [Wife.

Then let him Die, the vexed Queen reply'd,  
 No more shall he insult me with his Pride;  
 And since he'll no Submission to me pay,  
 His Execution I'll no longer stay.  
 The Warrant Sign'd for Death, proud C——l  
 [strait  
 Sent Orders to surrender him to Fate,  
 who did not in the least his Tidings dread,  
 But most undauntedly did lose his Head!

Now when the Queen the Death of E——x  
 [hears,

Her Majesty strait burst into Tears,  
 Whilst C——l took great Pleasure in his Fall,  
 And N——m compos'd of Wrath and Gall,  
 Triumphed in her self, in that her spite  
 Did so successfully on E——x light;  
 Who tho' when living revel'd in the Alarms  
 of Love, but ever slighted all her Charms.

But long her Joy and Falshood was not pleas'd,  
 For a violent Distemper on her seiz'd,

Which

Which shew'd her all the Horrors of Grim Death,  
 To which she quickly did resign her Breath ;  
 Yet e're she dy'd, her Conscience did torment  
 Her Mind ; and for a farther Punishment  
 Of her perfidious Cruelty, the Ghost  
 Of E——x seem'd to haunt her and the lost  
 The Favour of the Queen, when she declar'd  
 In loving E——x she with her had shar'd,  
 But as he made no suitable Return,  
 Instead of Love her Breast with Rage did Burn ;  
 Moreover, all her base Perfidiousness  
 In keeping of the Ring she did confess ;  
 Thus having told the Malice of her Heart,  
 This World she for another did depart ;  
 And thus fares ev'ry faithless Favourite,  
 Who in the Blood of others do delight.

Now when the Queen the Death of E——x  
 [hears]

**E N I S.**

But long her Joy and Fellowship was not pleas'd,  
 For a violent Dissembler on her side,

Which